

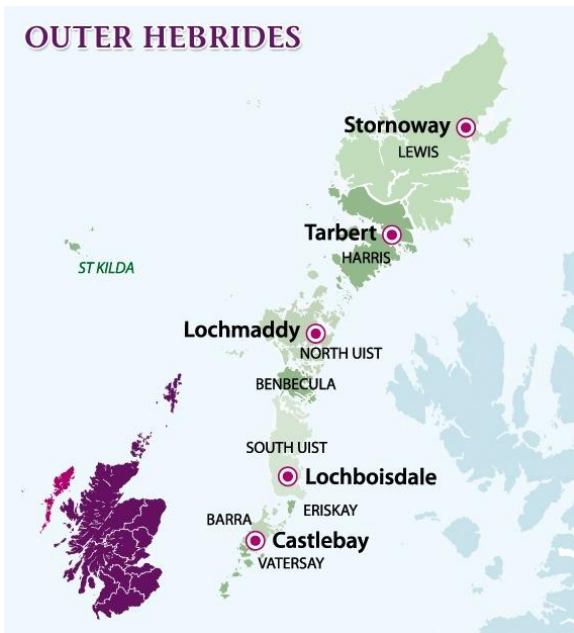


Twin Otter Landing on the beach at Traigh Mhor. Photo credit to HIAL.

Barra



OUTER HEBRIDES



Frequently known as “[Barradise](#)” or “Barra-bados” due to its white sandy beaches and clear turquoise waters, Barra is one of the most southerly of the Western Isles and the most westerly island in the UK. Barra Airport is the only one in the world to use the beach as a runway for scheduled flights – which obviously have to be flexible due to tidal conditions – and was voted the [second most scenic airport in the world in 2018](#).

The island was the seat of the clan Macneil and [Kisimul Castle](#) in the middle of the sea in Castle Bay was their home and is the last remaining complete castle in the Outer Hebrides.

Settled since Neolithic times the island has remnants of its past still visible in the foundations of the abandoned village at [Boldnabodach](#), its brochs, burial cairns and standing stones, and Barra even hosted a dig by Time Team in 2007. Artefacts and information showing the islands history are displayed in the [Dualchas Heritage Centre](#).

Barra was also home to author Compton MacKenzie who based his book [Whisky Galore](#) on the story of nearby Eriskay and the residents salvage of 240,000 bottles of whisky in 1941.

Accessed by regular (but tide dependent) [flights](#) from Glasgow or [ferry](#) from Oban, Barra is just 8 miles long by 5 miles wide. The main village is Castlebay and this is where the majority of the islands [services](#) are located – including [primary and secondary schooling](#), the [GP surgery](#) and [hospital](#), plus a small supermarket and the [sport centre](#).



BARRA – links to further information

- [Barra Airport](#)
- [Isle of Barra tourist website](#)
- [Bus services](#)
- [Annual average weather information](#)
- [Comhairle nan Eilean Siar \(Outer Hebrides Council\)](#)
- [Sold house prices for Barra, plus links to property searches and estate agent details. Enter postal code HS9 to search.](#)
- [Next 7 days weather forecast plus tide predictions](#)
- [The cost of living on a Scottish Island](#)
- [The Islands Bill](#)
- [Blog post - 10 things to know about Barra](#)
- [Barra Atlantic Gin distillery](#)

Find out more about what is currently happening on Barra on Twitter:

- [Barra Airport Barra Community account](#)

Get a bird's eye view of 'Barrabados' by watching the following video: [Isle of Barra from Above | Scotland 2018](#)

